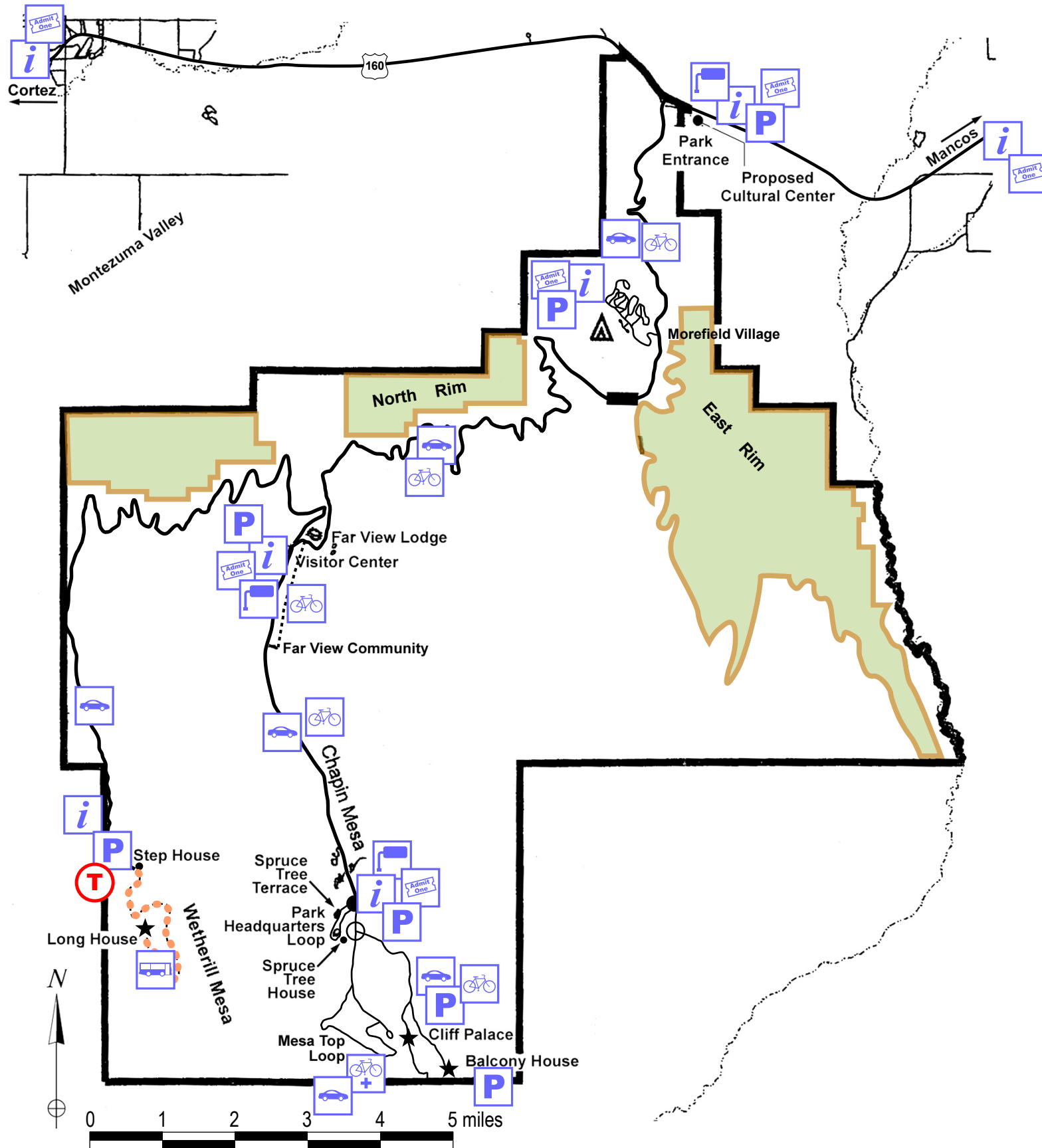


May 25, 2004



# Preliminary Enhanced Visitor Management Alternative

## Enhanced Visitor Management Summary

### Preliminary Enhanced Visitor Management Alternative.

Uses new, low-cost strategies requiring minimal new infrastructure such as a different ticketing system, enhanced visitor information sources, the addition of some short trails and overlooks, and select bike-only times (on loop roads) to manage visitor and vehicle distribution. Maintains current roadway and vehicular access characteristics.

### Roadway

- ▢ Park Entrance Road, Chapin Mesa Road & Wetherill Mesa Road open to autos.
- ▢ Scheduled roadway improvements for Park Entrance Road.
- ▢ Maintain existing turnouts provided on each road.

### Parking

- ▢ Maintain existing supplies: Park Entrance, Morefield Village, Far View area, HQ loop lots, Wetherill Mesa.
- ▢ Reorganize HQ loop parking. Current overflow lot becomes main lot.
- ▢ Mesa Top Loop: Improve/add parking at Sun Temple.

### Transit

- ▢ Wetherill Mesa Loop Bus/Tram.

### Tour Bus

- ▢ Concessioner-operated.
- ▢ Allow concessioner to increase tours as market demands.
- ▢ Maintain access for other tour operators.

### Trails

- ▢ Formalize social trails at Morefield Village and harden trail to Kiva.
- ▢ Add trail between Far View VC and Far View Community.
- ▢ Add/formalize trails to new overlooks (see list/maps).

### Bikes

- ▢ Permitted on park roads except Wetherill Mesa. No designated bike lanes.
- ▢ Bike only on Mesa Top Loop in early morning until 10 am.
- ▢ Biking permitted on new Far View Trail.

### Site Access/Overlooks

- ▢ No new archeological sites developed.
- ▢ Manage existing sites. Increase tour size in peak season and add in-depth tours during off-peak times/season at Cliff Palace.
- ▢ Overlooks: Promote existing overlooks and add new locations. Develop overlook tour (see list/maps).

### Ticketing

- ▢ Implement "Smart Entrance Station" with Point of Service terminal (electronic payment and data processing).
- ▢ On-site Distribution: Far View VC (or new Cultural Center in 2010), Chapin Mesa Museum.
- ▢ Off-site Distribution: Cortez, Mancos, internet website.
- ▢ Provide ticket pre-sales on-site, off-site and via internet (e.g. campground reservation system)
- ▢ Cliff Palace: Increase ticket capacity in peak season and offer tickets for in-depth tours during off-peak times/season.
- ▢ Balcony House: No change in ticket capacity.
- ▢ Long House: No change in ticket capacity.

### Orientation

- ▢ Sources
- ▢ Visitor information available at Park Entrance (new Cultural Center in 2010), Morefield Village, Far View VC, Chapin Mesa Museum, Colorado Welcome Center (Cortez), Mancos Town Hall, area hotels and restaurants, and park website.
- ▢ Expand use of NPS Mesa Verde website to enhance preplanning opportunities.
- ▢ Utilize Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technologies for information via variable message signs, highway advisory radio, 511 telephone system, and real-time entrance station activity.
- ▢ Provide information brochures at gateway community hotels and restaurants.
- ▢ Add variable and static signs at Park Entrance, Far View, HQ lots.
- ▢ Enhanced orientation and planning information
- ▢ In addition to existing information, provide the following on a seasonal basis:
- ▢ On-site, off-site, advance purchase ticket distribution locations for Cliff Dwellings.
- ▢ Daily ticket availability/status for Cliff Dwellings.
- ▢ Parking location information and availability (real time).
- ▢ New Cultural Center services.
- ▢ Promotion of concession tours.
- ▢ Real time weather and driving conditions.
- ▢ Safety information on roadway rules, driving precautions, physical requirements and wildlife cautions.

### Interpretation Opportunities

- ▢ Update brochures and educational materials to address new overlooks.
- ▢ Expand Far View Community brochure to include trail from Far View.
- ▢ Expand interpretation at Petroglyph Point Trail, Far View Community and Cedar Tree Tower (re-open fire-damaged site).
- ▢ Add interpreter(s) for larger tour size during peak season and off-peak in-depth tours at Cliff Palace.

## Legend

- |                   |                         |                                    |                                  |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| = Roadway         | = Ticket Distribution   | = Bikes Permitted                  | = Trail                          |
| = Park Boundary   | = Visitor Information   | = Special Biking Times             | = Transit Terminus/Transfer Node |
| = Wilderness Area | = Variable Message Sign | = High Frequency Bus/Tram          | = Bus/Tram Route                 |
| = Ticketed Sites  | = Autos Permitted       | = Primary Visitor Parking Facility |                                  |